



New Sidewalks in District A

Houston City Council approved two new sidewalks in District A as part of the city's **Safe Sidewalk Program**. New sidewalks will be constructed on Metronome between Shadowdale and Mallard and on Cedar Post Lane between Long Point and Westview.

The Safe Sidewalk Program provides sidewalks and ramps within the public right-of-way for pedestrians to use around schools and major thoroughfares and to improve accessibility for people with disabilities. The Public Works and Engineering (PWE) Department constructs sidewalks as an independent public improvement through three programs: Safe School Sidewalk Program, Major Thoroughfare Program and Pedestrian Accessible Review Program.

For more information on any of these programs visit:

<http://documents.publicworks.houstontx.gov/latest/safe-sidewalk-program-ssp.htm>

Pinemont Drive Construction Project

CitizensNet, a City of Houston E-Newsletter, released the notification below regarding the Pinemont Drive Capital Improvement Plan Construction Project.

To sign up for future CitizensNet notifications visit:

<http://cohapp.cityofhouston.gov/citizensnet/Registration.aspx>

In order to keep pace with the growing needs of the community, the City of Houston Department of Public Works and Engineering (PWE) will be improving streets in the area described below. The contractor for this project is Triple B Services, Inc. Work started on **April 26, 2010** and is scheduled to end on **November 27, 2011**.

You may not see any activity by the contractor for several weeks after the construction time has begun. This is due to the contractor getting prepared to perform work which includes procurement of materials and equipment, setting up staging areas or working in other areas in the project.

A detailed description and contact information is listed below:

WBS No.: N-000475-0001-4

Project Description: Work consists of the reconstruction of Pinemont Drive from T.C. Jester to Ella Boulevard. The new roadway will consist of a four lane divided concrete boulevard section with curbs and gutters, sidewalks and underground utilities.

If you have questions about the construction phase, please contact the City of Houston Project Manager, Dotun Ogundare at 832.395.2389. If the issue is not resolved to your satisfaction, please contact the City of Houston Managing Engineer, Jeff Masek at 832.395.2387 or J. Timothy Lincoln, P.E., Senior Assistant Director, Construction Branch at 832.395.2355 or e-mail at tim.lincoln@cityofhouston.net

Prohibited Yard Parking Program

Macgregor West Subdivision recently became the newest neighborhood to successfully opt-into the Prohibited Yard Parking Program. Congratulations to the Macgregor West Neighborhood!

The Prohibited Yard Parking Program is intended to protect neighborhood property values, prevent damage to the City of Houston's underground infrastructure and to stop the degradation of the aesthetic appearance of single-family residential areas. Parking of vehicles on any unimproved surface in the front or side yard within single-family residential areas will be prohibited where a Prohibited Yard Parking Requirement Area has been established.

For more information about the Prohibited Yard Parking Program contact the Planning Department at 713.837.7931 or visit:

www.houstontx.gov/planning/ComPlanning/yardparking_prog.html

District A on the City Council Agenda

Houston City Council approved an **Energy Savings Performance Contract** for energy conservation measures with Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. to implement energy conservation procedures. These procedures are designed to improve the City's infrastructure and operational efficiencies at different City Department facilities including Solid Waste Management, Parks and Recreation and the Health Department. Overall, these departments represent 56 facilities. The lifetime of new equipment and systems installed and implemented during this project is between 20 and 25 years.

The contract consists of three work orders and the appropriation of \$1,113,147.00 to fund the implementation of energy conservation measures at the Solid Waste Management Department facilities below:

- ★ Northwest Service Center at 1245 Judiway - District A
- ★ Southwest Service Center at 11500 S. Post Oak
- ★ Warehouse at 9003 N. Main
- ★ Northeast Service Center at 5617 Neches
- ★ Southeast Service Center at 1506 Central

The project will generate annual savings of \$2,010,807.00 with \$508,296.00 of that savings derived from capital cost avoidance and is projected to save the City of Houston a total of \$26,140,491.00 over a 13-year period. If the costs savings are less than the guaranteed annual savings of \$2,010,807.00, the consultant will pay the City the difference. City Council will request additional funds to this contract for the remaining two work orders on a future date.

Houston City Council also approved two Ground Storage Tanks and Cathodic Protection Systems in District A as part of the City's Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation and Replacement program.

The two water storage tanks are located at 9400 Kempwood and will be cleaned, sealed and given a new horizontal impressed cathodic protection system to prevent corrosion of the interior tanks. These improvements will help provide quality drinking water to residents within District A.

Northwest Crime Alert Network News

To sign up for the NW-CAN, an informative newsletter for northwest residents regarding crime, please email Christopher.Engelhardt@cityofhouston.net.

The Positive Interaction Program (P.I.P.) Coordinators, Officers C. Engelhardt and J.J. Mounsey, have released the following information on the Northwest Crime Alert Network (NW-CAN) asking residents to be aware of suspicious persons in their area.

Over the past several weeks, we have noticed several reports involving a suspicious male who is approaching females and stealing jewelry from them.

The crimes have taken place at the below locations:

- ★ 1700 Huge Oaks on 04-16-2010 at 6:30 p.m.-middle of the street
- ★ 7960 Long Point on 04-08-2010 at 4:22 p.m. at Wal-Mart
- ★ 1505 Wirt Road on 04-07-2010 at 7:35 p.m. at Kroger

These crimes appear to be a crime of opportunity as the suspect is targeting lone females who most likely are not consciously aware of their surroundings. The suspect is approaching the complainant's from the rear and snatching jewelry from their necks. All we have to work with at this time is a Hispanic male suspect about 5'6 to 5'9 between the ages of 18 to 25, and weighing 140 and 180 lbs. The suspect is driving a black vehicle that is believed to be a black 1990 - 1995 Toyota Corolla.

*If you see this person, do not make contact. Call the police immediately by dialing **9-1-1**.*

H.E.A.R.T

Council Member Brenda Stardig attended the 3rd Annual Family Fun Day at Sylvester Turner Park. With an outstanding show of participants estimated at over 9,000 the event hosted many groups such as Housing, Entrepreneurship and Readiness Training (HEART). This Houston-based program is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. HEART opened its doors February 1, 2006 to a training program for vending machines and concessions.



(Council Member Brenda Stardig, District A and Jane Cummins, Founder and Executive Director of HEART and HEART team)

HEART operates 20 vending machines in the Houston area as well as over 100 concession events annually. Trainees from the HEART Program work at all of these enterprises and earn paychecks at minimum wage or higher for their hard work.

To learn more about H.E.A.R.T. and upcoming events visit <http://www.heartprogram.net>.

T.C. Jester Dog Park Grand Opening

Council Member Brenda Stardig and District A mascot **Lola**, had a *paws*-itively fun time participating in the T.C. Jester Dog Park Grand Opening Celebration. T.C. Jester Dog Park, located at 4201 West T.C. Jester Blvd, boasts a 31,000-square foot run for big dogs and a 16,000-square foot run for small dogs, for a total enclosure of 1.08 acres. There are benches and dog drinking fountains in both sections making the park a wonderful asset to the surrounding District A community.



(From Left to Right: Tiffany Moore, President of Houston Dog Park Association; State Representative Dwayne Bohac, District 138 with his dog, Titus; Houston City Council District A Member Brenda Stardig with District A Mascot Lola; Victor Cordova, City of Houston Parks & Recreation Department, Teri Jo Nicholson with her dog Embi, Houston Dog Park Association; Crista Meyer, Urban Tails; Natalie Bland, Call to Doody)

Special thanks go to the Houston Dog Park Association for planning the event with a mobile adoption van, doggie vendors, refreshments and entertainment. For more information visit: www.houstondogpark.org/TC-Jester-Dog-Park.htm.

Taste of Spring Branch Beats Expectations

Memorial Assistance Ministries released the below press statement regarding its Taste of Spring Branch event.

Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) held its *Taste of Spring Branch* event on Sunday, April 25th. The event raised more than \$4,000 for emergency assistance such as: rent and utilities, clothing and food, job search and transportation. Attendance reached higher than expected with over 300 happy folks savoring the many flavors of the Spring Branch and surrounding areas. The Memorial High School Jazz Trio set the mood for relaxation and eating comfortably.

The event sponsors Spring Branch District, Amegy Bank and New Spring Center for Business Nurturing all had representatives in attendance enjoying the range of foods under the big tent. Councilwoman Brenda Stardig, Houston City Council District A, also attended and said to Martha Macris, MAM executive director, "I am so glad MAM did this. This is the kind of event that shows the true picture of Spring Branch."



*(District A Council Member **Brenda Stardig** & MAM Executive Director **Martha Macris**)*

At no cost to MAM, 17 restaurants, including Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church Food Service Ministry, served a wonderful selection of their best foods. "We're proud to have shown our supporters, neighbors and friends the fine diversity of dining in the Spring Branch area," said Macris. "Our attendees sampled Korean, Polish, Italian, Mexican, New American, Mongolian and Norwegian foods, all under one big tent. The event reflected the true make-up of the Spring Branch area: rich with cultural cuisine."

Twenty-seven bottles of wine were donated to MAM to support their fund raising efforts in a Wine Pull component. It sold out in 30 minutes and raised \$540. The MAM Resale Store sold over \$600 worth of goods. "We made many new friends. I'm so glad we had it

here,” said Macris about the location on MAM grounds at 1625 Blalock Road. Plans are in place to have just as much fun next year.

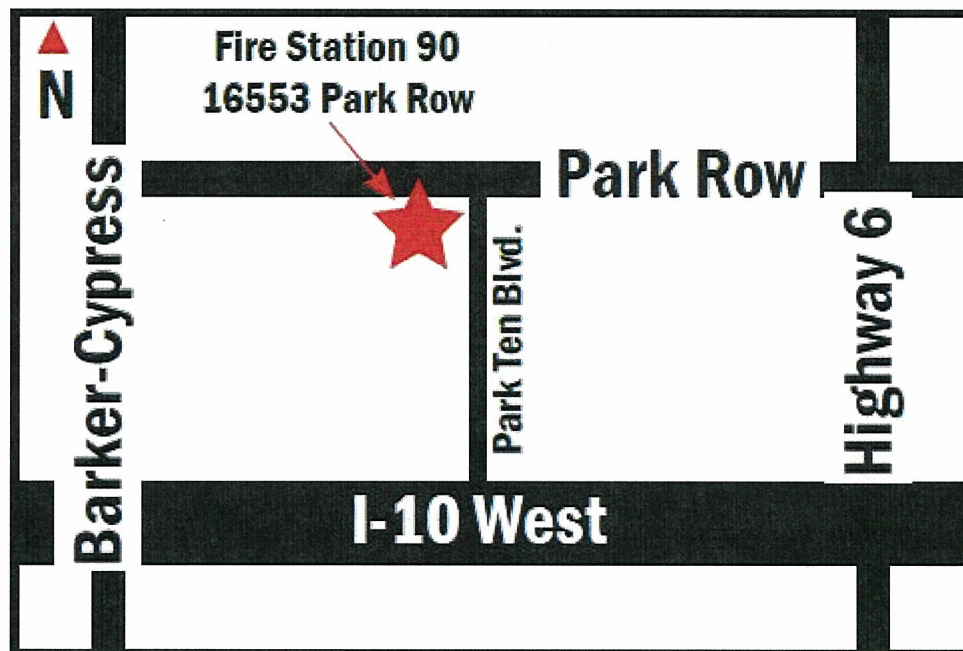
For more information contact Martha Macris at mmacris@maministries.org.

Fire Station No. 90 Grand Opening

Join **Mayor Annise Parker**, **Council Member Brenda Stardig**, **Acting Fire Chief Rick Flanagan**, friends and neighbors as they welcome the new Fire Station No. 90 back into service!

When: Thursday, May 13, 2010, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Where: Fire Station No. 90, 16553 Park Row, Houston, Texas 77084



For more information about the Houston Fire Department visit:
<http://www.houstontx.gov/fire/firestations/station90.html>

District A Crime Prevention Town Hall Meeting

Houston City Council Member Brenda Stardig will host a District A Crime Prevention Town Hall Meeting to proactively address crime prevention for area residents.

When: Wednesday, May 19, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Where: Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Hall 8790, 1560 Foley
(Corner of Long Point & Campbell)

The town hall meeting will address what residents can do to prevent crime with presentations about burglary of motor vehicles and homes as well as information on HPD's Positive Interaction Program and Citizens Patrol Program by the Northwest Division. HPD's Anti-Gang Division will present gang related identifiers to residents and Crime Stoppers of Houston will showcase different crime reporting resources.

If you are interested in learning about your local law enforcement entities, would like to get tips on what you can do to prevent crime or just want to be informed of local crime activity in your area, then mark your calendar for this important Crime Prevention Town Hall Meeting.

For more information contact Lynda Sims in the District A Office at 832.393.3010 or email Lynda.Sims@cityofhouston.net.

Party for Jaycee Park Playground Fundraiser

Join **Friends of Jaycee Park** for the **Hartman & Associates Party for a Playground** fundraiser. The fundraiser will feature live music by Jubilee & Bayou Banjo Bands, food, trackless train, face painting, balloon artist, field day games, carnival games, inflatable climbing wall and silly string arena.

When: Saturday, May 8, 2010 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Where: Jaycee Park, 1800 Seamist, Houston, TX 77008

All activities cost \$1 to \$3 offers everyone an opportunity to shop for Mother's Day gifts at the silent auction which includes a 4-hour cruise for twelve on in a catamaran, night at the Houstonian, landscape design by AJ's Landscape Design, Texan tickets, Astros tickets, Houston Symphony tickets, membership to the Fine Arts Museum and much more! Even if you do not have children stop by and listen to music, grab a bite to eat and bid on great items.

100% of the proceeds go towards the renovation of JayceePark. For more information on JayceePark visit www.houstonparksboard.org/projects/JayceePark.php.

Shred Day

Texas Security Shredding and **Houston Computer Recycling** will offer on site shredding of paper and recycling of all computer equipment. All computer equipment is acceptable, including monitors, printers, keyboards, speakers and mouses. Hard drives

will be wiped clean or destroyed during the recycling process. Even if you wish to rid your office of binders, bring them down for Shred Day!

When: Saturday, May 15, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Where: Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM)
1625 Blalock, Houston TX 77080

\$10 minimum donation, all proceeds benefit MAM. For more information call 713.574.7540 or visit www.helpherehelpnow.org.

Operation Medicine Cabinet

Come out to the next event of the pharmaceutical take-back program called Operation Medicine Cabinet.

When: Saturday, May 15, 2010

Where: HEB - Bunker Hill Market
9710 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77055

Bring your unused or expired meds, both over-the-counter and prescription. It only takes a few minutes to drop off the items and is a great way to get medication out of your home. When the event ends, the pharmaceuticals are taken to the HPD Crime Lab and incinerated. Flushing and dumping are no longer recommended as that impacts our environment, as well.

For more information visit: www.cbhshouston.org.

SBISD Exercise Classes

Employee Wellness, Athletics and Sweetwater Pool Inc. has joined together to launch a pilot program for Deep Water Exercise at the Spring Branch Independent School District Natatorium. The purpose of this program is to open up the use of the natatorium for community members and SBISD employees/plus spouse to participate in an aquatics wellness program.

This program will consist of adult deep water exercises in a pool depth of 6' plus. Participants do not have to know how to swim, but should be comfortable in deep water while wearing minimal floatation provided by an aqua jog belt.

Classes take place from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- ★ Tuesday, May 4, 2010
- ★ Thursday, May 6, 2010
- ★ Tuesday, May 11, 2010
- ★ Thursday, May 13, 2010
- ★ Tuesday, May 18, 2010

- ★ Thursday, May 20, 2010
- ★ Tuesday, May 25, 2010
- ★ Thursday, May 27, 2010

Pool and dressing rooms available from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Registration begins April 1, 2010 and ends April 27, 2010 and classes cost \$30.00 for district employees and \$40.00 for district patrons. Manual/equipment fee cost \$20.00. All registrations will be handled through Sweetwater Pools at <http://www.asaponlinereg.com/Default.aspx?org=221>.

District A Highlight

The *Houston Business Journal* published an article during the week of April 9-15, 2010 entitled “Sharp developed Oak Forest as prelude to grand Sharpstown plan”.

The article illustrates the history behind developing **Oak Forest** and expresses the genuine community development feel of the neighborhood. To read the full article visit: www.houston.bizjournals.com.

Building a stronger sense of community.